

Message Text

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ACTION SNM-02

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DEPARTMENT FOR S/NM

CUSTOMS FOR INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS

DEA FOR TRI

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SNAR, AG
SUBJECT: NARCOTICS TRAINING FACILITIES

REF: 76 STATE 284346

THERE FOLLOW ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS RAISED PARA 5 REFTEL:

A. TO BEST OUR KNOWLEDGE, ALGERIAN AGENCIES CONCERNED
WITH NARCOTICS CONTROL HAVE NO NARCOTICS TRAINING PROGRAM
PER SE.

B. WE SUSPECT THAT NARCOTICS CONTROL AGENCIES
PROVIDE SOME NARCOTICS TRAINING IN THEIR OTHER TRAINING
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PROGRAMS. HOW EFFECTIVE SUCH TRAINING MAY BE DIFFICULT
TO JUDGE. ALGERIAN CUSTOMS HAS FROM TIME TO TIME BEEN
EFFICIENT IN APPREHENDING NARCOTICS TRAFFICKERS.
TRAINING IN ALL CASES CONDUCTED BY NATIONAL CUSTOMS,
POLICE AND GENDARMERIE ORGANIZATIONS.

C. POLICE, GENDARMERIE AND CUSTOMS ALL HAVE

TRAINING SCHOOLS WHICH NORMALLY ATTENDED BY HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES.

D. WE DO NOT HAVE ACCESS TO INFORMATION ON CAPABILITIES OF INSTRUCTORS IN ALGERIAN LAW ENFORCEMENT SCHOOLS.

E. U.S. INVOLVEMENT IN LOCAL NARCOTICS TRAINING HAS CONSISTED OF TWO-WEEK SEMINAR CONDUCTED BY U.S. CUSTOMS AGENTS FOR ALGERIAN COUNTERPARTS IN ALGIERS IN NOVEMBER 1975. ALSO, TWO CUSTOMS AND ONE POLICE OFFICIAL HAVE PARTICIPATED IN SHORT-TERM TRAINING AND OBSERVATION PROGRAMS IN U.S. INVOLVEMENT OF UN AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS IN NARCOTICS TRAINING HERE NOT BELIEVED EXTENSIVE.

F. RESULTS OF OUR TRAINING EFFORT NOT QUANTIFIABLE. OUR ACCESS TO ARREST AND SEIZURE INFORMATION HERE VERY LIMITED AND WE THEREFORE CANNOT JUDGE WHETHER SEIZURES AND ARRESTS HAVE ARISEN SINCE WE BEGAN OUR LIMITED COOPERATION PROGRAM. WE DOUBT THAT THEY HAVE. WE BELIEVE THAT SHARP INCREASE IN EARLY 1975 OF ARRESTS OF TRAFFICKERS ENTERING ALGERIA FROM MOROCCO RESULTED SIMPLY FROM INCREASED ALGERIAN VIGILANCE AND THOROUGHNESS IN SEARCH PROCEDURES.

G. ALGERIAN AUTHORITIES, PARTICULARLY CUSTOMS, WILL PROBABLY BE WILLING FROM TIME TO TIME TO ACCEPT IN-COUNTRY TRAINING PROGRAMS. COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM UNCLASSIFIED

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INVOLVING POLICE AND POSSIBLY GENDARMERIE AS WELL AS CUSTOMS WOULD REQUIRE HIGH-LEVEL REPRESENTATION IN FOREIGN MINISTRY AND ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AND SUBSEQUENT LOW-LEVEL DISCUSSIONS. AT MOMENT, ALGERIANS DO NOT SEEM MUCH INTERESTED IN SUCH A PROGRAM.

H. GIVEN ALGERIA'S SECONDARY IMPORTANCE ON INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS SCENE, WE DO NOT RECOMMEND AN ATTEMPT AT SETTING UP A LARGE IN-COUNTRY TRAINING PROGRAM AT THIS TIME. BELIEVE BEST WAY TO PROCEED IS TO OFFER IN-COUNTRY TRAINING PROGRAMS, AS WELL AS SHORT-TERM STAYS IN U.S., WHEN SUCH ACTIVITY POSSIBLE. AS DEPARTMENT AWARE, ALGERIAN CUSTOMS HAS REQUESTED POSTPONEMENT OF IN-COUNTRY PROGRAM UNTIL LATER THIS YEAR, AND POLICE HAS EXPRESSED NO INTEREST WHATEVER IN SUCH ACTIVITY. AT PRESENT, WE PLAN TO RAISE IN-COUNTRY TRAINING IN LOW-KEY MANNER WITH CUSTOMS CONTACT SOMETIME DURING SUMMER. LYNE

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